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PATENT
Customer Number 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 8098-0009-00



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Dennis MENDIOLA et al.) Group Art Unit: 2165
Application No.: 09/846,249) Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: May 2, 2001)
For: INSTANT MESSAGING)
ACCOUNT SYSTEM)

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-referenced application. Copies of the listed documents, including any copending patent applications, are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the

documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

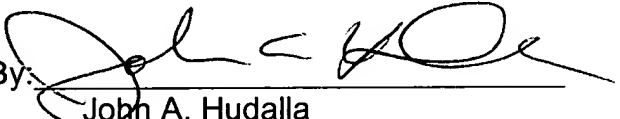
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: August 1, 2001

By: 
John A. Hudalla
Reg. No. P-48,445

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,
FARABOW, GARRETT,
& DUNNER, L.L.P.
1300 I STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
202-408-4000

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

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|---|-----------------------|
| Atty. Docket No. 8098-0009-00 | Serial No. 09/846,249 |
| Applicant Dennis MENDIOLA et al. | |
| Filing Date May 2, 2001 | Group: 2165 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|-------|-----------|----------------------------|
| Examiner Initial* | Document Number | Issue Date | Name | Class | Sub Class | Filing Date If Appropriate |
| | 20010003202 A1 | | Mache et al. | | | 11/30/00 |
| | 20010003203 A1 | | Mache | | | 11/30/00 |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|---------|-------|-----------|-----------------------|--|
| Document Number | Publication Date | Country | Class | Sub Class | Translation Yes or No | |
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| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | |
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| Examiner | Date Considered |
| *Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. | |
| Form PTO 1449 | Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce |